

# 1956 GAME DETAILS

## ALABAMA 13—RICE 20

Sept. 22, at Houston, Tex. (night)

On the ground and in the statistics, the new Crimson Tide was the equal of the Rice Owls,, but a porous pass defense let the Owls in, 20-13. For Rice, quarterbacks Frank Ryan and King Hill must stand out as the winning margin.

Alabama scoring came through the efforts of quarterback Clay Walls, who dived into the end zone in the first half, and a 17 yard romp by halfback Don Comstock in the third period.

Sophomore line play for the Tide was termed "magnificent" by the working press, but not enough to keep Alabama from taking its 14th straight defeat.

## ALABAMA 7—VANDERBILT 32

Oct. 6, at Mobile, Ala. (night)

The tremendous offensive power of the Commodores Phil King, Don Orr, Jack Hudson, and Jimmy Ray combined to march through the fighting legions of the Tide on drives of 90, 57, 52, 73, and 72 yards to paste the hopeful Tide with a 7-32 loss.

Alabama, which had been so strong in rushing against Rice, fell apart against Vandy. The Tide gained only 168 yards, threw one completed pass, and scored once when Comstock plunged over from the one.

## ALABAMA 6—TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY 23

Oct. 13, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

The "Jim Swink deception play" never worked better than against Bama, as the Horned Frogs sprung Kenny Wineburg loose on runs of 46 and 41 yards. It was the second TCU victory in three attempts as they bowled over the Tide, 6-23.

Sharp pass defending and ball-hawking ended five Alabama drives near the TCU goal line. Another drive was capped by Jim Loftin's 10 yard dash into the end zone.

Fullback Vern Hallbeck booted a 21 yard field goal for the victorious Horned Frogs.

## **ALABAMA 0—TENNESSEE 24**

**Oct. 20, at Knoxville, Tenn.**

That 'old Orange magic' in the presence of two great tailbacks and an air-tight defense held the Tide scoreless for the first time of the year, and brought Tennessee in 0-24.

Like streaks of lightning, tailback Al Carter and All-American Johnny Majors burst for scoring runs of 44 and 43 yards respectively. The Tide actually outgained the Vols.

The first Tennessee score came in the time-tested manner, a quick kick, hold, and then punch it over. Fullback Tommy Bronson blasted over from the two. Four Tennessee pass interceptions held the Tide off.

## **ALABAMA 13—MISSISSIPPI STATE 12 (Homecoming)**

**Oct. 27, Tuscaloosa, Ala.**

Gone 20 games without a win, and only minutes from the 21st, the Crimson Tide came from behind to reward Coach J. B. Whitworth and the loyal Tide followers with the first win in a blue moon, 13-12.

It happened like this, the Maroons blasted two quick TDs across in the first period, failing in both conversions. A Tide "miracle" play in the waning minutes of the first half, a 49 yard pass play from Clay Walls to Jim Bowdoin, made it 12-6 at the half.

Just before the end, two and one-half minutes from disaster, Walls negotiated Bama to the State two yard line and then plunged over. Pete Reeves executed the pressure play of the year by splitting the uprights perfectly and ended a drought of two years duration.

## **ALABAMA 13—GEORGIA 16**

**Nov. 3, Birmingham, Ala.**

Entering the game favored to win was something new to most Tiders, but Bama acted like a favorite for three quarters plus, retaining control and out-gaining and out-scoring Georgia seemingly at will.

The whole course of the game was changed when J. B. Davis returned a Tide punt 80 yards for a score that fired up the Bulldogs. When the dust settled, Georgia had won, 16-13. In a few minutes, Georgia had scored a field goal, and punched across another TD.

Bama scored first on a 34 yard drive with quarterback Charles Nelson going over from the two. Sophomore quarterback Bobby Smith passed 68 yards to Marshall Brown for the other score. Bama drives were halted on the Bulldog 2, 5, and 23.



## **ALABAMA 13—TULANE 7**

**Nov. 10, at New Orleans, La.**

This week, a two touchdown underdog, Alabama spoiled a Tulane Homecoming by walking off with a startling 13-7 win.

Tide power reached its season's peak as the Offense rushed 266 yards and passed for 113 more. Except for one defensive mistake which resulted in a 72 yard Tulane TD pass from Fred Wilcox to Gene Newton, the Tide was in command all the way.

Bobby Smith engineered one 85 yard drive and helped Clay Walls with another. Scoring were Don Comstock and George Salem on 2 yard plunges both times.

## **ALABAMA 0—GEORGIA TECH 27**

**Nov. 17, Atlanta, Ga.**

For almost three quarters, the valient Crimson Tide held the fourth ranked team in the nation in check. Then it happened. Little Jimmy Thompson, tattered jersey flapping in the breeze, scampered 48 yards with a bobbed handoff to score and blow the game open.

Tech followed with two more TDs in the final period with Toppy Vann going in from the 12, and then Vann passed to Joe Delany for a 21 yarder. The first Tech score came in the first period when Johnny Menger plunged over.

## **ALABAMA 13—MISSISSIPPI COUTHERN 13**

**Nov. 24, at Tuscaloosa, Ala.**

The Crimson Tide craftily "bought" a tie with Mississippi Southern, 13-13, by shuffling squad personnel around to fill the gaps left by the injured of the Tech game. Six men who traveled to Atlanta the previous week were unable to dress out for the game.

Southern runners did all they could, and their scoring came on two long gainers by R. L. Dickinson of 38 and 37 yards. Alabama passing kept pace, as Bobby Smith hit Don Comstock with a 52 yarder and end Ralph Blalock with a 15 yarder.

## **ALABAMA 7—AUBURN 34**

**Dec. 1, Birmingham, Ala.**

The Auburn Tigers,, waxing fat during a Tide drought and famine, brought together all its forces for a few minutes to score four TDs in the second period and waltz on to a 7-34 win, its third in a row over Bama.

Never missing an opportunity, Auburn turned Tide mistakes into scores. Bama was able to contain the Tigers only in the first and last periods.

Alabama's Jim Loftin scored on an eight yard power run in the third period. The Tide had a 61 yard Smith to Bobby Jackson pass TD called back on a penalty.